The Good Life at Shaker High

By Julie Grodin

In many ways, Shaker Heights High School, a gold-plated suburban school, resembles a number of other high schools, but the Shaker Heights High School is different in one significant way—it is an educational Utopia.

Even the casual observer cannot help noticing the student parking lot which is filled to capacity with 1963 convertibles or the stable for student poloponies which is conveniently adjacent to the huge new bowling alley.

Upon entering the school itself, one is immediately struck by the congenial atmosphere provided by the pleasingly decorated classrooms which are attractively furnished with the ultimate comfort of the student in mind.

The showplace of the school is the Olympic-size swimming pool in which one sees beautiful mermaid-like creatures wearing the newest and most chic in bathing suit apparel from Paris.

The teacher and pupil work happily hand-in-hand in this relaxed atmosphere of luxury. Grades and examinations have been eliminated from the scholastic program to enable the student to work for the pure joy of education rather than for a superficial record of accomplishments. Thus, the Shaker student is free from cares, responsibility, and pressures.

Yes, the Shaker Heights High School is certainly an educational Utopia!

"Spacious student parking lot which on a sunny day looks like an outdoor version of the 1963 Automobile Show."

Shaker is proud of its Olympic-size swimming pool.

The Executive Board Eulogizes *The Shakerite*

By Jules Lodish

In a surprise announcement, a spokesman for the Executive Board of the Student Council burst forth with a glowing eulogy for the *Shakerite*, that exalted expression of Student Council and Executive Board opinion.

For the assembly of well-wrought students, the spokesman had these words: "I have a few opening announcements. A.T.&T. is up five-eighths.

"Mr. McNamara informs me that the paper airplane supply is dwindling; so we are asking that you please leave some of that worthless trash . . . Oh, I mean, the extra copies of your articles to insure that your country is adequately protected against any surprise aggression from our bratty neighbors."

Then came the sterling announcement which seemed impulsive on the spokesman's lips, almost as if he intended to say something else. But this is what he said:

"For *The Shakerite* we have special praise. Their work in not covering the U.N. crisis, the Laotian uprising, the coup in Syria, and rigidly adhering to those three sacred principles of modern journalism which I have enumerated for you before:

"First, don't displease me. Second, don't print anything until I have read it. Third, don't knock touch football.

"*The Shakerite's* ability to steer the middle course and avoid any controversy is unique in our time. We have nothing to fear but fear itself . . . oh no, that was for another speech.

"We hope that they will continue in the future as they have in the past to say nothing, do nothing, and be . . . the major tri-weekly newspaper in town."

Song Lack Noted; Boosters Proposed

By Steve Killam

It has occurred to *The Shakerite* staff that Shaker students have no song which they can sing between glasses at Joe's twenty years from now.

True, Shaker does have two songs which could be considered for this important position, but they do not seem quite suitable. The Fight Song is a bit too fast and competitive-sounding to be nostalgic. Besides, upon hearing an old Shakerite singing that he knew not of the word defeat, some well-lubricated listener might be tempted to fill this gap in his vocabulary.

Then, at the other extreme, there is the Alma Mater. But we want it to be nostalgic, not maudlin, remember? Besides, the picture it conjures up, that of 1800 students trying frantically to remember what the words are, is probably not the one we would choose to keep in our treasure house of fond memories.

Replacements

So here are a few examples. You can take them or leave them. You will have to pick out your own tune.

God rest ye, merry Shakerites
Wherever you may be.
All bow toward Shaker
once a day
To show your loyalty.

Shaker High, we honor you,
And sing your praises
loud and long
We wish you'd taught us
grammar, though,
We could of sang a better song.

Old Shakerites just leave
our world,
They never, never die.
They ride with red and white
unfurled
In that Jaguar in the sky.

Pupils Untie Gordian Knot; Stolen Silverware Returned

By Pete Linkow

At the Shaker Heights High School Student Council meeting this week, the latest Shaker problem was discussed. The problem is that students have been returning silverware, and much worse have even straightened bent silverware. What possesses a person to do a thing like this? This is surely the work of depraved people.

Why do we have this problem when other schools have just the opposite problem? Many years back Shaker had much of its fine sterling silver either stolen or destroyed.

The school board hired a special lunch-bag investigator, LeRoy Browne, to go through every lunch bag checking for silver. The school board found that after they paid LeRoy's salary and bought new silverware that there was no money left to pay Mrs. Brock's high salary.

One day, as LeRoy was going through the discarded lunch bags, he found a piece of the cafeteria's hamburger meat. Not having had lunch that day because he was too busy working, LeRoy ate the meat and within minutes was dead from botulism.

Later, when LeRoy's will was probated, it was found that he had left several million dollars to the school's LBSS Foundation, the Lost, Bent, and Stolen Silverware Foundation. He specified that $10,000 a year should go into supporting the foundation, and any money left was to go to the Peanut Butter Sandwich Maker's Retirement Fund. Since the school had the money, they now had to have silverware to pay for.

Senior Contributes

Now, we have the problem of students returning used silverware. Why just last week a student had the gall to bring some of his mother's own sterling silver to the cafeteria, and leave it on his tray. This was not too bad, considering he was a senior.

Someone suggested the use of plastic forks, knives, and spoons, but after this idea was tested, it was found that it saved money rather than spent it.

To top it off, some students tried to wash their plastic eating materials in the drinking fountains so that they could return them. Luckily, they were fouled up because they got gum all over the plasticware.

The school finally arrived at a suggestion that would kill two birds with one stone. Anyone caught returning silverware would be drafted onto the wrestling team.

They would not be able to eat, for they would all be on diets, and, thereby, would not be able to return silverware. Also, it would never hurt the wrestling team to have a full squad.

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Shaker Mothers Make Merry In Honor of Demerit Scholars

By Susan Weisberger

The members of Shaker's Mom's Club recognized the three students who failed to win Scholarships at an assembly held February 31. These three outstanding students received the combined award of Yale locks, easily opened by Scholarship keys, and National Demerit Scholarships.

Since there are only three winners, the qualifying restrictions are exceedingly stiff. The basic regulations are similar to that of the Honor Key program and the National Merit.

The first restriction is the most difficult. Instead of possessing 4.5 averages, all interested applicants must have 3.2, P.O.C. preferred. This restriction narrowed this year's group from 1800 to 13.

N.M.S.Q.T.

Then these thirteen students were compelled to take the N.M.S.Q.T. (No More School, Cutie). Scores on this test were measured by net demerits collected by each student. These demerits must be collected with no conspicuous effort. This year's winners have a few tips to prospective applicants.

Suggest Absence

They suggest prolonged, unexcused absence from school, seniors parking in the Woodbury Strip, and failure to get weighed and measured in Girls' Physical Education classes. (Several girls narrowly missed qualifying by taking showers in gym).

13 Semi-Finalists

A score of 250 demerits is considered excellent and 249 is passing. The group of thirteen semi-finalists was narrowed down to six finalists by this system, all of the seven rejects missing narrowly.

These six students were then given their choice of schools sponsoring the National Demerit. These schools include such well-known names in the Fungus League as: Rat Cliff, Sickley (National Demerit's answer to Wellesley), Western Reverse (Girl's division is Flora Stone, What's-a-Mather?), Hard Case Institute of Technology, and State Penn.

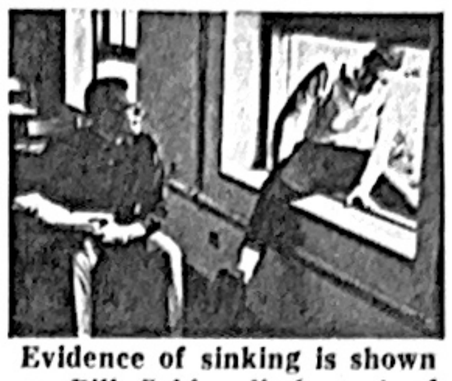
The six semi-finalists were then turned over to the demerit panel who discussed each case fully and meaninglessly. Final disapproval must be given by the counselors.

Winners

The three students surviving this rigorous plan are: A. Bert Einstein, Winsome Churchill, and Alfred E. Neuman.

Winsome Speaks

Winsome said of his experience, "We feel sincerely that no class would be complete without us. We play a vital role in American education and we serve Shaker gladly. We at the very bottom give you at the very top our sincerest sympathy and earnestly hope that, in your future endeavors, you too may descend the ladder of success."



Evidence of sinking is shown as Bill Sahle climbs out of second-floor window.

Unseasonable March Weather Disturbs World Conditions

By David Stein

This past March has been one of the most extraordinary in years. Unseasonable temperatures and rain and snow storms have plagued not only this country but the whole world as well.

The Shakerite correspondent in Madrid reported that this month's precipitation has caused great local concern, for contrary to preceding Marches, the rain in Spain fell mainly on the Spaniards.

In Egypt the Great River failed to overflow to the dismay of the farmers; tornado-like winds allegedly from Israel have instead pushed the river back for niles.

The Finnish correspondent wired that violent earthquakes that shook the capital this March lowered the city by four feet. Meteorologists believe that these tremors were due to Helsinking.

Barometric pressures forced the tepid Gulf Stream all the way north to Iceland which promptly melted.

Electra Stormides, *The Shakerite* editor in Athens, reported that an unseasonable heat wave have created extreme discomfort among the peasants, which set them to Balkan.

Perhaps the most unfortunate tragedy the month of March has brought this year occurred in Alaska: fur hunters experienced excessive losses this season, for the March Hare, now widely used in the fur industry, have all balded because of sub-zero temperatures, dropping each precious strand of hair hare and there, which is by no means very punny.

English Club Proves Shakespeare Forgery

By Sally Stone

Scholars throughout the world were electrified by the news that the SELDSDCPBWS (Society of English Literature and Drama Scholars Devoted to the Cause of Proving that Bacon Wrote Shakespeare) has conclusive proof that William Shakespeare was, in reality, Francis Bacon.

The Shakerite, because of its close contact with the intellectual hierarchy of Shaker Heights, was granted an exclusive interview with the chairman of the SELDSDCPBWS, Fenwick P. Bacon. Mr. Bacon, a direct descendant of Francis Bacon, outlined briefly the information the Society used in proving Shakespeare's true identity.

Shakespeare Uneducated

The Society based its proof on the belief that a man of Shakespeare's limited education could not have written the brilliant and enduring plays and sonnets attributed to him. "Obviously," said Mr. Bacon, "only Francis Bacon, the most learned man of his time, could have written such masterpieces." This fact in itself has led many people to believe that Bacon wrote Shakespeare.

The indisputable fact that proved the Society's theory conclusively was developed by the chairman himself after many months of thorough analysis. He believed, and rightly so, that the clue to the mystery lay in Shakespeare's name. Shakespeare has 11 letters, while Bacon has only five. This is a difference of six letters.

Shakespeare contains one more "a", two more "s's", and three more "e's" than Bacon. This also totals six, and Bacon died in 1626, a multiple of six. On top of this is the fact that Bacon begins with a "b" and Shakespeare does not.

In spite of the fact that it has fulfilled its purpose, the Society does not intend to dissolve itself. Its member agree with the many people who think that it is impossible for one man to have written 37 plays and 154 sonnets, along with 58 essays that were published under Bacon's own name, and they have decided to investigate the matter.

At their last meeting the Society elected a new chairman, Paxton F. Middleton, and unanimously voted to change their name to the SELDSDCPMWB—the Society of English Literature and Drama Scholars Devoted to the Cause of Proving that Middleton Wrote Bacon.

Science Classes Sinking School

By Kristina Hygaard

"Shaker will sink approximately 27 feet, nine-and-three-quarter inches into the ground, unless something is done to prevent it," snickered Professor Mildew Z. Fafoofnik.

The noted scientist has been studying the foundations of the school ever since early October, when several tremors were felt.

Rock Base

He set up his laboratory in the basement and proceeded to drill into the ground for samplings of the rock base. When he had dug down 100 feet in several locations and had hit nothing harder than sandstone, Professor Fafoofnik concluded that the school is built on a swamp.

Chemicals Corroding Earth

Continuing his investigations, the professor found that powerful chemical solutions are corroding away the earth under the building. These chemicals were only found below the windows of science classrooms.

Unstableness

In a report to the school board, Professor Fafoofnik summed up the causes of the weakening ground as follows: "basic unstableness of the rock foundation, corrosive chemicals, and an odd network of holes beneath the basement floor."

The board has decided it will be cheaper to adjust to the situation than to try to remedy it. Plans are being made to move the cafeteria to the roof, and to install extra lighting facilities in the lower floors.

When asked to give a prediction on the time of the "sinking," Professor Fafoofnik gave 2179 as a possible date.

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